

60,130-1027; 01MRA0149

REMARKS:

Claims 1-19 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1 and 12 are in independent form. Paragraph 12 on page 3 of the Specification has been amended to address the objection raised by the Examiner. Figures 2 and 3 have also been amended, and a copy is attached. However, the Figures are only intended to be schematic representations of the invention.

Claims 1 has been amended to require that the first and second actuators converge at and provide the first connection, which is moved by the actuators. Also, the third actuator provides and moves the second connection. The knuckle is supported by the first and second connections. This arrangement is neither disclosed nor suggested by the references. Amended claim 1 overcomes all previous rejections to it. Nonetheless, Applicant will address the rejection of claim 1 under §103 below.

Claim 1 was rejected under §103 over Weiss in view of Goetzen. The Examiner's attempt to combine these references is improper. The Examiner's argument that providing additional components from Goetzen "would give a wider and increased adjustability to the geometry of the wheel" of Weiss is true, however, there is no motivation to one of ordinary skill in the art to do so. The whole disclosure of Weiss is concerned with adjusting wheel chamber during high speed cornering to maintain the maximum amount of tire surface area in contact with the roadway (column 1 - top of column 2). There is no desire, need, or benefit in Weiss to provide any additional adjustability to the suspension geometry. The Examiner is merely picking and choosing elements from Goetzen and attempting to add them to Weiss with no reason suggested in the art to do so. Accordingly, the rejection is improper and must be withdrawn.

With respect claim 4, Applicant challenges the Examiner's attempt to take Official Notice of a mechanical steering linkage, in which case the Examiner must provide a reference. Applicant is not attempting to place an unnecessary burden on the Examiner. Rather, Applicant finds it necessary so that Applicant can scrutinize whether an art combination would be proper based upon the reference's teachings. As noted by Applicant on page 1 of the Specification, there are reliability and packaging problems with such systems that may teach against such art combinations.

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Claim 12 was rejected under §103 over Lee alone. Again, Applicant challenges the Examiner's attempt to take Official Notice of mechanical steering inputs, for the reasons set forth relative to claim 4 above.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant submits that the pending claims in the application are allowable. Applicant respectfully solicits allowance of these claims. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

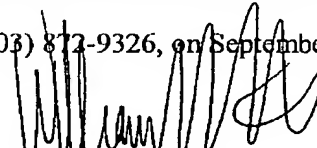


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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States patent and Trademark Office, fax number (703) 872-9326, on September 15, 2003.


William S. Gottschalk

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